

of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fourteenth.

GEORGE BUSH

Editorial note: For the President's remarks of Mar. 20, 1990, on signing Proclamation 6109, see the *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* (vol. 26, p. 446).

Proclamation 6110 of March 20, 1990

National Agriculture Day, 1990

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

When our ancestors came to America more than 3 centuries ago, they discovered a land of unparalleled beauty and plenty. Cultivating this rich, fertile soil, they built new lives for themselves—and set down the first roots of a free, strong, and prosperous nation.

The abundance of agricultural goods we enjoy has been vital to our well-being both as individuals and as a people. Free from the dire hunger that has tragically limited the development of some countries, we have been blessed with the ability to produce a wealth of other goods and services. This productivity and prosperity would not be possible without the contributions of our farmers.

The American farmer is the most enterprising, capable, and efficient in the world. Nowhere else does such a small percentage of a nation's population feed so many and so well. Farmers not only provide us with food and fiber, but also play a leading role in protecting our environment. Through the use of innovative soil and water conservation techniques, for example, they are helping to safeguard America's land, lakes, and rivers for future generations. With the aid of authorities in biotechnology, farmers are also helping to develop alternative uses for farm products, such as ethanol and other new fuels and fuel additives.

The success of American agriculture is enjoyed by millions of people around the country and around the globe. Today farmers, ranchers, scientists, merchants, and government officials are working together to produce food and fiber for this Nation and for much of the rest of the world as well.

As they have done for generations, American farmers have prevailed against adversity, meeting every new and familiar challenge with the faith, fortitude, and ingenuity that have always been their hallmark. Last year, net farm income reached a record level. The value of U.S. agricultural exports has increased for a third consecutive year. Because we are committed to ensuring that this trend continues, we are determined to promote the market-oriented farm policies that give producers greater flexibility. We also remain committed to promoting the industry and commerce that enable our farmers to reach and to compete effectively in markets at home and abroad.

Agriculture is one of the pillars upon which our strength and prosperity as a Nation rest. This is worth remembering each day, and especially

on National Agriculture Day. Today, we give thanks not only for the bountiful harvests that bring our daily bread, but also for the courageous and industrious men and women who reap them.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE BUSH, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim March 20, 1990, as National Agriculture Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twentieth day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fourteenth.

GEORGE BUSH

Editorial note: For the President's remarks of Mar. 20, 1990, on signing Proclamation 6110, see the *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* (vol. 26, p. 448).

Proclamation 6111 of March 30, 1990

United States Naval Reserve Month, 1990

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

On March 3, 1915, the Congress enacted legislation establishing the Federal Navy Reserve. That act has enabled the United States to remain at a high level of military preparedness in times of peace, as well as in times of crisis.

Hundreds of thousands of Americans have served this Nation proudly and ably as Naval Reservists. More than 600,000 Naval Reservists rallied to action during World War I. During the Second World War, when the United States was embroiled in a life-and-death struggle to defend freedom and democracy from the brutal forces of totalitarianism, 80 percent of our Naval personnel were reservists. Whenever the lives of innocent people have been threatened, whenever any of our other national interests have been at stake, our reservists have demonstrated clearly their value as part of America's fighting forces.

During the Berlin Crisis, the Korean and Vietnam conflicts, the Mayaguez incident, and in Grenada, the Persian Gulf, and Panama, Naval Reservists consistently played vital roles in advancing our national objectives. Yet they have also provided invaluable assistance to their country during nonmilitary emergencies. For example, in the aftermath of Hurricane Hugo and the devastating 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake that struck the San Francisco Bay area, hardworking Naval Reservists were on the front lines of relief efforts.

The men and women of the Naval Reserve boast a long tradition of courageous and dedicated service to their fellowman. As we enter a new decade and a new century, their operational readiness will continue to be critical to our Nation's security and well-being. That is why, as we salute all Naval Reservists, we also pay tribute to their families